THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) With a view to accelerating development of Inland Water Transport (IWT), the Government has approved an inland water transport policy which envisages greater role of private sector in infrastructure development including setting up of cargo terminals as well as ownership and operation of inland vessels. Such private sector participation can be either on BOT basis or Joint Ventures.

(c) and (d) Few major shipping companies such as Shahi Shipping, ESSAR Shipping, Eastern Navigation and LOTS Shipping have shown interest to participate in IWT projects. However, no model agreement for undertaking such projects, through private sector, has been formalized.

Setting-up of National Maritime University

2022. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set-up a National Maritime University;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scope and extent of maritime education and training in the country has been reviewed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof in the context of setting-up Maritime University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU.THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In order to make appropriate changes in the institutional framework for imparting training, including the feasibility and desirability of bringing the institutes under a University type of structure, the Government of India in October 1991 set up a Committee on Maritime Education and Training (COMET). The Committee in its report submitted in May,1992 recommended establishment of an autonomous body to manage, control, supervise, direct and monitor the maritime training institutions functioning

under Government control. The idea was to form a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Accordingly, the Indian Institute of Maritime Studies, Mumbai has been registered as a Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 6th June, 2002.

Project for development of T.S. Canal

2023. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project submitted by the State Government of Kerala for developing the T.S. Canal from Kollam to Kovalam under National Waterway-Ill has been pending for sanction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider implementation of the project to develop the T.S. Canal; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI S.U.THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal at a cost of Rs. 36.40 crores for development of T.S. Canal from Kovalam to Kollam was received from the State Government of Kerala for approval under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The same was examined and State Government of Kerala was requested to furnish certain clarifications, which are still awaited.

Delay in clearance at ports

2024. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice carrying ships have to wait for clearance from port authorities at ports for 15 to 16 days resulting in demurrage of thousands of dollars; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the situation at ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI S.U. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.